UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.3/1993/3/Add.1
2 February 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATISTICAL COMMISSION
Twenty-seventh session
22 February-3 March 1993
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL COOPERATION

Comments on the recommendations and decisions contained in the report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination on its fifteenth session, work done and additional action required for implementation

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. The Working Group made nine recommendations, some of which were split into separate sub-items, giving a total of twenty-one separate recommendations. The Working Group also made 10 decisions. In order to assist the Commission to consider these recommendations and decisions, the following observations and suggestions are provided.

Recommendations 1, 2, 3, 7 and 9

2. These recommendations concern aspects of the role and functioning of the Statistical Commission and the Working Group, the frequency of their meetings and the nature of their reports, including special topics to be considered by them. Some elements of these recommendations, if supported by the Commission, will need to be referred to the Economic and Social Council (recommendations 1 and 3 (a)). Others are of a more procedural nature and the Secretariat has already initiated actions to implement them. The Statistical Commission may wish to give priority attention to recommendations 1, 2, 3, 7 and 9.

---

* E/CN.3/1993/1.

93-06859 3835j (E) 100293 12/02/93

/...

Decision 3

3. Decision 3 concerns the role of the regional statistical conferences and regional statistical divisions. A draft text containing recommendations on this subject prepared by the drafting group (see E/CN.3/1993/3, paras. 37 and 38), is expected to be before the Commission. The Commission may wish to give priority attention to finalization of a text on this question, which is receiving major attention as part of the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the Secretariat.

Recommendations 4, 5, 6 and 8

4. These recommendations deal with requests to the Statistical Division (UNSTAT) and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities, concerning their efforts at coordination and methods of reporting to the Statistical Commission and Working Group. Action on these recommendations is already under way in the Secretariat. The Commission may wish to generally endorse them.

Decisions 1, 2, 4 and 10

5. These decisions have all been carried out by the Secretariat and the agencies involved. The proposals requested under decision 2 have been incorporated in the work programme proposals of UNSTAT in document E/CN.3/1993/CRP.1, and the reports referred to in decision 4 are before the Commission as documents E/CN.3/1993/22 and E/CN.3/1993/23. The Commission may wish to endorse decisions 1, 2, 4 and 10, and take up further discussion when the above-mentioned documents are discussed.

Decisions 5, 6, 7 and 8

6. By these decisions, the Working Group established task forces in six subject-matter areas where a need for review was considered a priority. Action on each task force has been taken by the Secretariat and the agencies involved. The achievements of individual task forces have varied. In view of the importance assigned by the Working Group to these task forces, the Statistical Commission may wish to consider task force activities as a priority area for discussion and, in particular, may wish to express its views on priorities for the various elements of their terms of reference.

Decision 9

7. By this decision the Working Group reflected its continuing concerns relating to technical cooperation. The Commission may wish to take up these concerns during its discussion of technical cooperation (agenda item 13).